

VILTIS ANNIVERSARY PROGRAM



The two "goats," Vincent Samas̄ka throwing over John Mamulonis during the dance of the goats OZELIS. Other members of the ATEITIS Lithuanian folk dance group are seen in the background.

The brilliant and spirited concert which marked the fifth anniversary of the birth of VILTIS was highly successful. The program opened with the delicate singing of three Lithuanian songs by Alice Stephens' trio, Cecilia Pukonis, Dolores Jenkins and Josephine Wirba. Stephany Novicky gave a masterly reading of the Bach GIGUE and the Chopin E MAJOR ETUDE, with DeFalla's Malague-na for an encore. Anthony Giedraitis, a robust tenor, sang two folk songs, and followed with a stalwart rendition of I'M FALLING IN LOVE. A novel and exotic touch was provided by Hindu airs on the sitar by Ram Rao Bhato-dekar; the melodies were strange to modern American ears, and the bizarre twanging of the instrument was fascinating; Edna Irene Valverde's rhythmic basis of the tabolas was captivating. Lulu Raben, a masterly violinist, played her own intricate arrangements of two Lithuanian folk tunes. The strictly musical portion of the program ended with Loretta Brazaitis' charming interpretation of two Lithuanian songs, the second supported by a violin obbligato of Miss Raben.

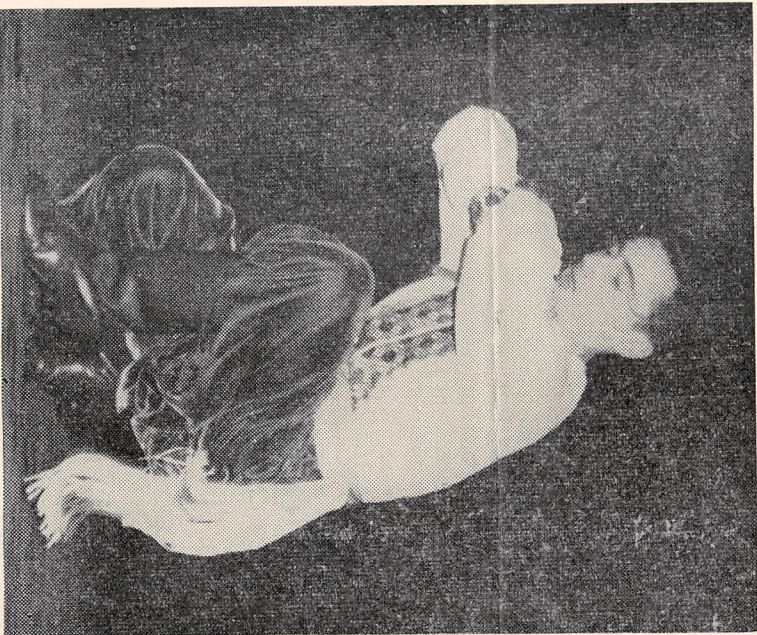
At this point, the color guard of Don Varnas Post 986 took over, posted the colors, held a moment of silent memorial for the VILTIS war dead, and presented a plaque to V. F. Beliajus, honoring him for his activity during the war and when VILTIS was a service letter dispatched monthly to the boys in the armed forces.

After a short intermission, the second half of the program devoted to folk dancing opened with four Lithuanian dances by the Ateis Folk Dancers; the pantomimic RYE FIELD, the flirtation SHEPHERD DANCE, the ludicrous GOATS, and the kaleidoscopic MALUNE-LIS. Then in rapid succession came the HIGHLAND SWORD DANCE and HIGHLAND FLING by Angus MacDonald and his diminutive sister Margaret Anne—

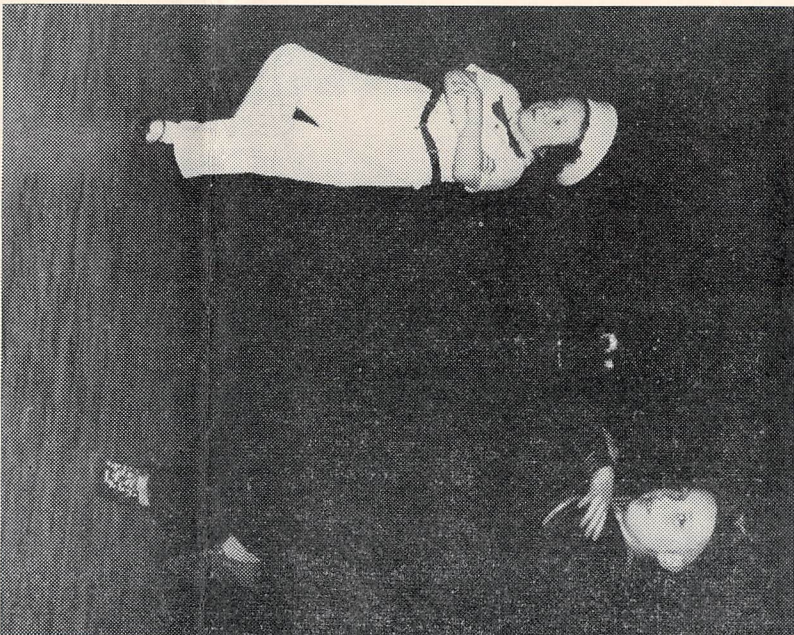


CHICO and CHABELLA HERNANDEZ, Mexican stars, shown doing a traditional dance from Yucatan, the Jarana Yucateca.

the music provided by Mrs. Margaret MacDonald on the bagpipes—; Myroslav Stodolny's strenuously barbaric Ukrainian CHUMAK; V. F. Beliajus' sustained and poetic Palestinian-Arabic CAMEL DANCE; Chico and Chabela Hernandez' sprightly Mexican JARANA YUCATECA; Edna Irene Valverde's charmingly graceful Spanish SEVILLANAS; V. F. Beliajus' histrionically amusing Hassidic-Jewish MERRY WEDDING DANCE; Myroslav



MYROSLAV STODOLNY, Canadian-Ukrainian Kozachok dancer whose vigorous and difficult stunts in his Kozachok amazed the audience.



The two wonder mites, Margaret Anne (left) and Angus MacDonald, are shown doing the Sailor's Hornpipe.

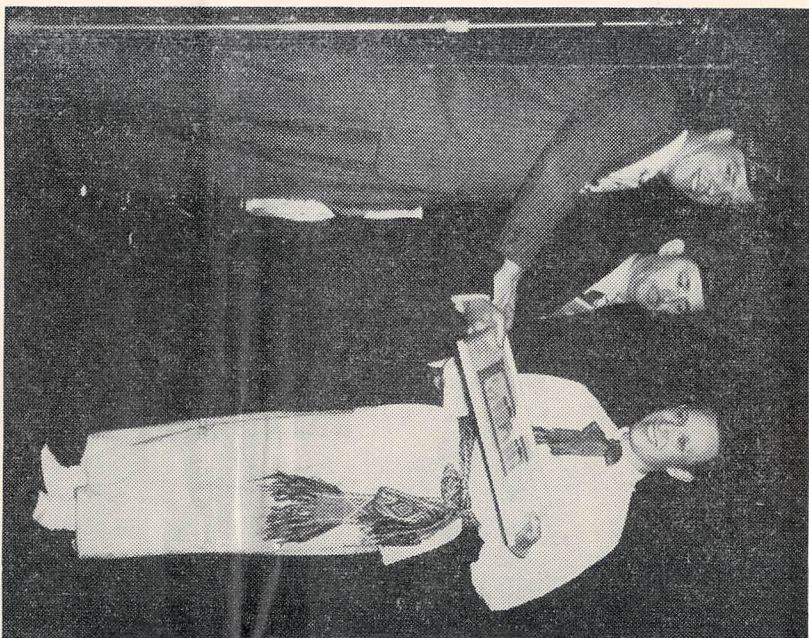
Stodolny's energetic Ukrainian KOZACHOK; the MacDonald youngsters' cutly dextrous SAILORS HORNPIPE; the Hernandez' Mexican JARABE with intricately varied rhythms; and finally the Northwestern University Settlement Festival Dancers in two Polish dances that concluded the program in a spirit of mercurial festivity.

The costuming thrust was lovely and varied; from the exquisite evening gowns of the musicians to the resplendent and ornamental costumes of the dancers, the entire program was a fast-moving symmetry of color and motion, with just the right proportion of climax and relaxation. The organization and the continuity of the program, whether by direction or cooperation, were efficient. All performers so thoroly enjoyed what they were doing, that their enthusiasm and good spirits were contagious and reflected in the audience.

B.I. Burton Lawrence provided authoritative and rhythmic accompaniments at the piano for most of the program. After the program Ray Braise and his orchestra provided excellent folk and social dance music to which the guest demonstrated their terpsichorean ability.

AMERICAN LEGION PRESENTS RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION TO V. F. BELIAJUS

At the program celebrating the fifth anniversary of the publication of VILTIS, which had its origin in Fairhope, Ala. as a service letter to the boys in the armed forces, a delegation from the Don Varnas Post 986 presented V. F. Beliajus with a Resolution of Appreciation. After the presentation one minute of silence was observed by all guests, in memory of the friends and VILTIS readers who lost their lives while defending their country. Below is the contents of the Resolution of Appreciation:



A. J. LEBERIS (left) and JACK JUOZAITIS, members of the DON VARNAS POST 986 of the AMERICAN LEGION are presenting V. F. Beliajus with the RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION in recognition of his work among the men in uniform during the war when VILTIS was a service paper.

THE AMERICAN LEGION DON VARNAS POST 986 RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION

WHEREAS, during all the trying days of World War II, the desire of all men and women in the armed forces was the contact with the loved ones at home, and WHEREAS, the morale of men in Service and their loved ones at home depended on someone to devote many hours in an organized program of activities to maintain these contacts and keep up the high level of morale, and WHEREAS, much credit for this excellent and high morale, both among the military and civilian populace, is due to

VYT BELIAJUS

therefore be it RESOLVED that the above named be highly commended for the results achieved in connection with the above mentioned program of activities and the unselfish devotion to a cause far and beyond that expected of an average individual or organization; and be it further RESOLVED that a suitable certified copy of this resolution be prepared by the adjutant of the Don Varnas Post, American Legion, and cause a copy of same to be sent to the above.

(Signed) Dr. J. J. Simonaitis
Post Commander
A. J. Leberis
Americanism Secretary
Joseph Shvedas
Post Adjutant

All pictures in this article were taken by Joseph Simbal.